(a) whether any private company has been entrusted with the task of producing daily international news bulletin for the Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of other programmes proposed to be entrusted to the private companies?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No decision has been taken so far.

[English]

Reconstitution of Air Programme Advisory Committee

*663. SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARAYA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recieved any communication from the Government of West Bengal regarding reconstitution of Programme Advisory Committee of the All India Radio;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of West Bengal have desired modification of rules on constitution of Programme Advisory Committees.

(c) The State Government have been requested to make specific suggestions on the level and extent of participation by them on the said committees.

[Translation]

Postal System in Tribal Areas of Gujarat

*664. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether postal system is functioning properly in tribal dominated districts of Gujarat particularly in Bharuch and Baroda;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

(c) To further improve and expand the postal system.

(i) State Transport bus service introduced with effect from 1.4.1992 is being put to use for conveyance of mail between Chhota Udaipur and Kawand, and Kawand and Kudipuri in Baroda district from 1.4.1992.

(ii) Proposals for opening a few more post offices in the tribal areas of Bharoach and Baroda are being processed.